

UNITED NATIONS



NATIONS UNIES

Agenda Item 140

Scale of assessments for the apportionment of the expenses of the United Nations

**Report of the Secretary-General
on multi-year payment plans (A/73/76)**

Agenda item 149

Scale of assessments for the apportionment of the expenses of United Nations peacekeeping operations

Implementation of General Assembly resolutions 55/235 and 55/236 (A/73/350)

FIFTH COMMITTEE

Statement by

Mr. Chandramouli Ramanathan
Assistant Secretary-General, Acting Controller

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Madame Chair,
Distinguished Delegates,

1. I would like to first congratulate you, and the Bureau, on your election. The Fifth Committee can count on my support, and the support of my office, in carrying out its programme of work at its 73rd session.
2. Turning first to agenda item 140, I have the honour to introduce the report of the Secretary General on multi-year payment plans, as contained in Document A/73/76. This is the sixteenth annual report on the status of multi-year payment plans.
3. Since the introduction of the system in 2002, six Member States have successfully implemented multi-year payment plans, enabling them to pay their assessed contributions in full. We are grateful for their commitment to meeting their financial obligations to the United Nations.
4. The remaining plan in the report before the Committee was submitted by Sao Tome and Principe in 2002. The report contains the status of its implementation as at 31 December 2017.

5. No new payment plans have been submitted in recent years, although several Member States have indicated, in the context of Article 19 discussions, that the matter was under consideration. In setting out the arrangements for the multi-year payment plan system, it was recognized that due consideration should be given to the economic position of Member States, as not all of them might be in a position to submit a plan. Accordingly, the submission of such plans remains voluntary in nature. The Secretariat stands ready to assist any Member State wishing to implement a multi-year payment plan.

6. The Committee may wish to take note of the report of the Secretary-General.

Madame Chair,

7. Turning to agenda item 149, I have the honour to introduce the report of the Secretary General on the implementation of General Assembly resolutions 55/235 and 55/236, in connection with the scale of assessments for peacekeeping operations, as contained in document A/73/350.

8. The Committee will recall that, by resolution 55/235, the General Assembly established a new system for adjusting Member States' regular budget rates of assessment to determine the rates of assessment for peacekeeping operations. This system was based on a number of criteria, including the average per capita gross national income (GNI) of Member States, which was used to place each Member State in a contribution level. The Assembly requested the Secretary-General to update the list of countries in each contribution level every three years, in conjunction with the review of the regular budget scale of assessments.

9. In establishing the system, the General Assembly decided that Member States would be assigned to the lowest level of contribution with the highest discount for which they were eligible, unless they indicated a decision to move to a higher level. By its resolution 55/236, the General Assembly welcomed the voluntary commitment of a number of Member States to contribute to peacekeeping operations at a rate higher than required by their per capita income.

10. The rates of assessment for peacekeeping operations were last considered at the seventieth session. The General Assembly, in its resolution 70/246, reaffirmed the principles set out in resolution 55/235. The Assembly also recognized the need to reform the current methodology for apportioning the expenses of peacekeeping operations and decided to review the structure of the levels during its seventy-third session.

11. In accordance with the General Assembly's request, the report before you updates the composition of the contributions levels in accordance with the established criteria, and in conjunction with the review of the regular budget scale of assessments. The updated composition of levels, subject to any adjustments that may arise from the General Assembly's review, would then be used to establish each Member State's peacekeeping rate of assessment for the period 2019-2021. The effective rates will only be determined once a new regular budget scale is adopted. For illustrative purposes, Annex III of the present report includes a table using the existing structure of contribution levels.

Madame Chair, Distinguished Delegates, I look forward to the discussions on this item.
Thank you, Madame Chair.